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Week ending Friday January 11, 2019

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Local News

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YA uncovers evidence that head of paedophile ring was police informant

GRASS SNAKE



DEPRAVED: Dennis King

EXCLUSIVE

by Charles Thomson

basildon@yellowad.co.uk

A NOTORIOUS paedophile who ran a child sex ring from Southend was secretly working for Essex Police, a historic charity document has revealed.

A police officer admitted to a charity worker in an on-the-record meeting more than 25 years ago that Dennis King was a "registered informant", the paperwork said.

King was arrested and charged with running the Shoebury ring in 1989 and faced a maximum term of life behind bars – but child protection workers were left furious when he cut a last-minute plea deal in 1990 and ended up being sentenced to four years.

The court heard he was one of two "leaders" of the "massive" ring, which abused "dozens" of boys.

He and his accomplice, Brian Tanner, groomed the boys, abused them, then transported them around Essex and beyond to be drugged and abused by other paedophiles, sometimes on camera.

But after King and Tanner were offered a plea deal, no other men involved in the ring were prosecuted and the duo, having already spent a year on remand, were soon released.

3. King – registered informant although Bob says had no bearing on apparent police inaction.

4. [REDACTED] link discussed – [REDACTED].

Perhaps we need to meet as suggested to discuss this and social policy issue vis a vis investigations and accommodation issues as soon as possible. Advise contact [REDACTED] as soon as possible as I am told he is asking why the inaction too could be good to co-work this one I feel.

DOCUMENTATION: Excerpt from the minutes of a meeting held in 1993 where detective Bob Fugl admitted that child abuser Dennis King was an informant for Essex Police

By 1993, King was back under investigation, this time for offences against young girls.

In June 1993, a Children's Society worker representing some of the girls met with detective Bob Fugl, who had worked on the Shoebury Sex Ring case and was now assigned to the new King probe.

Minutes from that meeting – typed up and mailed to a Children's Society manager – stated King was under police surveillance but a senior officer was "blocking investigation", saying he "did not think King was important enough to resource".

The notes state: "We talked around motives and concluded it could be conspiracy, although incompetence and attitude were factors."

The document then says Mr Fugl – who has since died – admitted

to the charity worker that King was a "registered informant", but claimed the relationship between police and the paedophile had "no bearing on apparent police inaction" over his offending.

It is not known who police were asking King to inform about.

In August 1993, the charity worker again met with Mr Fugl, where the officer said the investigation into King had been scaled down, leaving him to work the case alone.

Meanwhile, King had suddenly relocated to Lincoln amidst the new probe and moved in with a county councillor.

The charity worker again sent notes to a manager and requested a meeting to discuss "what appears to be inaction and incompetence on the part of the statutory authorities".

King ultimately settled in

Peterborough, where he continued to abuse children and receive sentences for more than two decades, until he died of Aids on November 30, 2018. In July of that year he had been declared unfit to stand trial to face yet more charges.

Essex Police said it would not comment on the use of Dennis King as a grass, owing to national legislation governing police use of "covert human intelligence sources".

But a spokesman said: "We robustly investigate all information received in connection with crimes committed in the present and the past and we will continue to do so.

"If you have been a victim of sexual abuse, contact Essex Police on 101."

● For more on King's lifetime of depraved criminality, see pages 6-7 and don't miss next week's YA for further revelations.

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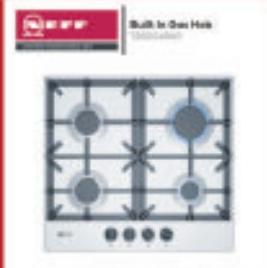
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Honours for teacher, tax chief, surgeon and rabbi



Dr Margaret Wilson CBE

by Michael Cox

southend@yellowad.co.uk

A FORMER headteacher and a consultant surgeon were among the people from across Southend, Castle Point and Rochford recognised in the New Year's Honours list.

The awards were announced last week and there was a total of just under 1,150 people named on the list.

Among the recipients of an honour was Dr Margaret Wilson, who was made CBE for her services to education.

Dr Wilson, from Westcliff, is the CEO of the Zenith Multi Academy Trust, which runs four schools across Basildon, Benfleet and Canvey.

One of those schools, The King John School in Benfleet, was where she had been headteacher for 19 years.

She said: "I was really shocked, surprised and totally delighted. I feel very humbled by it because I have got this award by doing a job I have loved for the last 20 years so I feel very lucky."

"I could not have done this without the massive support of the people I



Professor Antony Young OBE

have worked with.

"I have always believed that students are our future so we have to do the right thing by them."

Another winner was Professor Antony Young, a consultant surgeon in urology at Southend Hospital and national clinical director for innovation at NHS England.

Prof Young, from Southend, becomes OBE for services to clinical leadership.

He took up his role at NHS England in 2014, and the body said he provides clinical leadership and support in delivering improved health outcomes across the NHS.

Yvonne Blucher, Southend Hospital managing director, said it was people like Prof Young that make working at the hospital "great".

She added: "We congratulate him on being awarded an OBE for his clinical work, something he still very much plays an active part in here at Southend.

"His role as National Clinical Director for Innovation at NHS England helps to make a real difference to people's lives, not just in Essex, but across the country."



Pauline Chelmsford OBE

Pauline Chelmsford, the former deputy director for large business at Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC), was made OBE for services to improving UK Customs capability.

Pauline, who recently retired from the role, said she was "surprised and delighted" to receive the nomination.

She began with what was the Inland Revenue in 1976 and said she had mainly worked in compliance, ensuring that people and companies pay the right tax amount.

The Hockley resident also led task forces to ensure big businesses pay the correct tax and worked to improve the UK's customs capability to detect non-compliance and fraud.

"I never imagined in my wildest dreams that I'd be honoured in this way," she said.

"Over my 40-plus year career I've been extremely fortunate to work with great colleagues without whom I'm sure I would not have received this wonderful award."

"Now that I'm retired I plan to spend more time with my grandchildren and my husband Steven."



Rabbi Warren Elf MBE

Jo Wakeman, director of large business at HMRC, said Pauline had a "remarkable career".

"She led the delivery of billions of pounds of additional tax revenues, clearly demonstrating HMRC's ability to tackle all forms of abusive tax arrangements.

"She also made a huge contribution to improving the UK's Customs capability and driving HMRC's future Customs strategy."

Rabbi Warren Elf, from the Southend and District Reform Synagogue, was made MBE.

Rabbi Warren was honoured for his services to the community in Manchester, where he lives.

Born in Ilford, Warren said his work included supporting people and bringing them together following the Manchester Arena terror attack in 2017.

He added: "I am involved in interfaith work. We have been doing a lot of good work going into schools and educating youngsters about different faiths."

On his award, he said: "A letter arrived at the end of November which was quite a surprise and very nice."

NEWS IN BRIEF

• POLICE are investigating after a man had an "unknown substance" thrown in his face in Southend.

An Essex Police spokesman said: "We were called by the ambulance service shortly before 3am on Friday, January 4 to reports a man had had an unknown substance thrown in his face in Victoria Road.

"It was reported the victim was confronted by a group of people who, when he asked what they were doing, shouted abuse at him and threw a substance in his face."

The force said the man, who suffered discomfort but no reddening, then fell to the floor and was kicked.

Call police on 101 quoting incident 102 of January 4 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

• ESSEX Police has identified a woman officers wanted to speak to in connection with an alleged sexual assault of a woman in Shoeburyness.

A 54-year-old woman from Shoeburyness was voluntarily interviewed in connection with the incident, alleged to have happened at Wetherspoons, in Frobisher Way, on October 7 last year.

The force said its enquiries are ongoing.

• THE next performance in Southend Council's Concert Series is taking place in Southend.

The Tenebrae Consort vocal ensemble will be singing on Friday, January 18 from 8pm at the Plaza Centre, Southchurch Road.

Tickets cost £10 and can be bought at www.southend.gov.uk/concerts.

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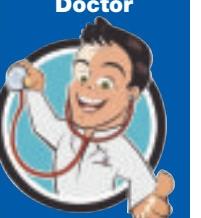
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'Tip of the iceberg'

Shock as 313 held in drink and drug-driving blitz

MORE than 300 people were arrested by Essex Police in December as part of a crackdown on drink and drug-driving.

The figure is more than double the total number arrested during the same campaign in 2017.

Adam Pipe, head of roads policing for the force, called the figures "unprecedented" and "frightening".

He said: "I've never seen this many people arrested for these offences in one month. I hope this acts as a wake-up call and worries the public – because it worries us."

Officers arrested 313 people last month as part of the Christmas Anti-Drink and Drug-Driving Campaign.

Of those, 140 were arrested on suspicion of drink-driving, 139 on suspicion of drug-driving, and 34 for failing to provide a sample.

When Essex Police ran the same campaign in December 2017 148 people were arrested.

Mr Pipe said: "This is an unprecedented number of arrests for a drink and drug-driving campaign period, let alone any other month.

"To have, on average, 10 people a day arrested for drink or drug-driving related offences is frightening enough, but I actually think that's only the tip of the iceberg."

In the month before the crackdown, drug-driving offences outnumbered drink-driving in Essex for the first time ever. Across the year, drug-driving rose 38 per cent, from 754 offences in 2017 to 1,039 in 2018.

Mr Pipe said: "I don't think people



CRACKDOWN: Number of arrests more than double that of last year

are quite grasping the full extent of the danger drug-driving poses.

"Our Serious Collision Investigation Unit, which investigates the most serious crashes, has seen a rise in the number of incidents where someone has been killed or seriously injured where drugs are a factor."

Mr Pipe urged the public to help police by reporting concerns around drink or drug-driving.

He said: "I believe people in Essex are as disgusted by drink and drug-

driving as we are.

"You support the work we do by helping us identify those drivers who are flouting the law.

"This information is invaluable and I thank you for it.

"Anyone who calls in with information about a drink or drug-driver is helping to make Essex a safer place and I need your support to continue."

"Our Christmas campaign may have finished, but our work to tackle drink and drug-driving doesn't stop."

Chemists

Every Sun: (10am-4pm), Sainsbury's Pharmacy, Sainsbury's Superstore, 51 William Hunter Way, Brentwood; (9am-11pm), Daynite Pharmacy, 261 London Road, Hadleigh. Derix Healthcare Pharmacy, 1065 London Road, Leigh-on-Sea, SS9 3JP. Sunday to Friday 8am-11pm, Saturday 8am-9pm

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Sat:	0346	5.30	1619	5.10
Sun:	0421	5.10	1658	5.00
Mon:	0503	5.00	1745	5.90
Tue:	0555	4.90	1843	4.80
Wed:	0701	4.80	1953	4.80

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Thu:	0313	6.10	1542	6.10
Fri:	0345	6.00	1616	6.00
Sat:	0417	5.90	1651	5.80
Sun:	0452	5.70	1731	5.60
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Go Sabres! Team's cash lift for hospice

AN AMERICAN Football team raised £2,000 for a children's hospice in Thundersley.

The East Essex Sabres American Football team took part in fundraisers for Little Havens Hospice in December, including an 11-mile walk from Shoebury to the hospice, as well as a bucket collection at Canvey's Christmas Lights switch-on.

The team, which trains at The Deanes in Thundersley, also raised money on training days.

Team member Alex Buck said: "We wanted to give back to the local community who come along to our games and support us."

"Little Havens is a very positive, colourful and happy place to be and I've been honoured myself to be able to visit on a couple of occasions now. It's inspiring to see how much time



SUPPORT: Members of East Essex Sabres with Little Havens staff

and consideration they take for a child and the whole family too."

Little Havens is part of Havens Hospices, which also includes Fair Havens Hospice for adults and The J's Hospice for young adults with life-limiting conditions.

Sally Bridger, community fundraiser for Havens

Hospices, said: "The Sabres have only supported Little Havens for a short amount of time but they've already raised such a fantastic amount of money for us."

"This money will enable us to care for more babies, children, teenagers and their families who have life-limiting conditions."

Alert after tumble dryer fire in garage

ESSEX County Fire and Rescue Service has urged residents to take extra care when using tumble dryers after a fire started in one of the machines at a property in Southend.

Firefighters were called to Eastcote Grove at 2.10pm on Wednesday, January 2, with

reports of a fire in a garage.

They arrived and extinguished the blaze within 15 minutes, but the garage had already suffered significant fire damage.

An investigation has determined that the blaze began inside a tumble dryer.

Dan Wastell, watch manager at Southend fire station, said

residents should not use tumble dryers overnight or leave them unattended, should clean the filters after every use, should remove items from the dryers as soon as the cycle is finished, and should ensure the machines have their own plug socket, rather than running them off an extension lead.

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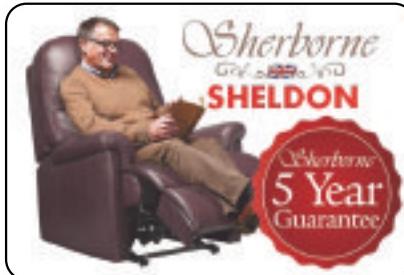
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Did serial child abuser's alleged police informer role affect investigations?

'Teflon paedo' always seemed to get off light

EXCLUSIVE

by Charles Thomson

basildon@yellowad.co.uk

"THE TEFLON paedophile."

That was how retired NHS manager Robin Jamieson described Dennis King.

First convicted of sex offences in 1958, King racked up convictions in seven consecutive decades. He was back in court just last year, aged 83.

Yet, observed Mr Jamieson, "No matter how many times he reoffended, whenever he came back before the court, the judge would give him a really lenient sentence again."

In a case in Peterborough in 2000, a judge told King he was eligible for 10 years inside, then gave him just seven months.

Child protection workers who saw the catastrophic damage inflicted

on children abused by King's 1980s Shoebury Sex Ring were infuriated by his lenient treatment.

When their questions about the handling of the case resulted in threats and intimidation, they became convinced the authorities were hiding something.

An NSPCC officer assigned to the Shoebury case (later seconded to the police to help monitor and catch paedophiles) formed his own conclusion.

"I strongly suspected King was a police informant," he said in April 2018, "and the more experience I've had since, I'm more convinced. I believe he probably had all sorts on all sorts of people."

Eight months later, he has been vindicated. A newly-uncovered document, written by a Children's Society worker in 1993, recorded a detective admitting that King was a registered informant.

The officer claimed King's work for the police "had no bearing" on his lenient treatment.

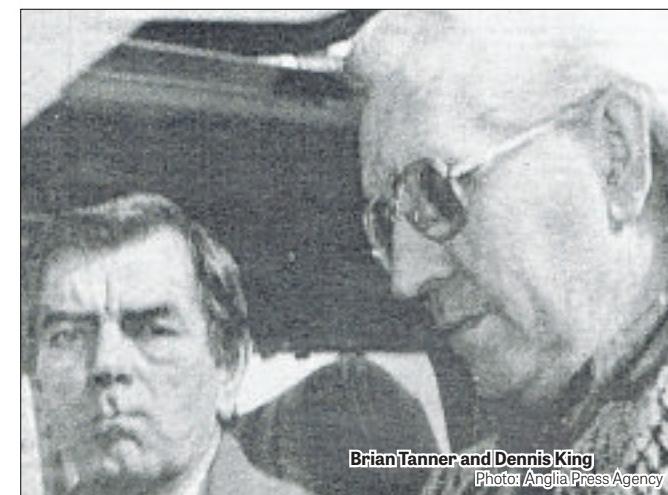
When the *Yellow Advertiser* showed the whistleblowers that comment, they just laughed.

BORN in Billericay in April 1935, the sixth of eight children, King spent his childhood in Southend.

Lawyers would later claim that he was sexually abused from age seven and, as a result, spent his adulthood



Cunningham Close, Shoeburyness



Brian Tanner and Dennis King
Photo: Anglia Press Agency

battling the compulsion to re-enact his own abuse with other children.

As a young man, King openly claimed to be gay – illegal at the time – but the true objects of his sexual desires were children of both genders.

He was convicted of his first sexual offence in 1958, then again in 1959.

By 1964, when he was jailed for a year for attempting to procure indecency, he had already served a six-month sentence for attempting to engage in sexual activity with children as young as nine.

In 1966, King abused two boys, aged 13 and 14, in a public toilet on Southend seafront, then took them to his flat in Ailsa Drive, Westcliff, where one spent the night in King's bed.

He was jailed for seven years for attempted buggery.

Prosecutions followed in 1972, 1978 and 1982. By the late 1980s, abusing children was no longer a personal pursuit for King. He'd turned it into a business.

He moved to Cunningham Close, Shoebury, on one of the area's most deprived estates. Neighbours included prostitutes and heroin addicts.

Amidst this depravity, King was an island of wealth.

Despite living in a council flat and claiming to work in a café, he drove sports cars and kitted his home out with cutting edge technology.

He was known locally as a fence for stolen goods, but he had another income – selling sex with children.

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IN May 1989, King and Brian Tanner, of Beedell Avenue, Westcliff, were arrested on suspicion of running a paedophile ring.

By June 1989, there were 14 known victims. By January 1990, those 14 had named a further 28. The list eventually comprised more than 60 children.

King and Tanner were charged with conspiracy and buggery, carrying a maximum term of life in prison.

Victims began disclosing information about the ring to charities helping them. They described being transported around Essex and London to be abused by other men, who paid King for the privilege.

They also named a police officer who would visit both King's flat and an underage brothel and drugs den in the next block.

When the charities began asking questions about why none of this was being investigated, a Tory county councillor told them there were "high up people involved".

A teenager who mounted an amateur investigation was "warned off by two CID" and left with a black eye. Then a police officer drunkenly blabbed that he had been instructed to "do a hatchet job" on the charity workers.

King and Tanner's trial was due to begin in April 1990. Seven boys were due to testify. The offences against them were specimen charges, representing identical abuse of "dozens" more victims. After decades



Former NHS manager Robin Jamieson

of offending by King, the stage was finally set to convict him of buggery and remove him from society for good.

But on the day of the trial, prosecutors offered King and Tanner a plea deal.

The buggery charges were reduced to "attempted" and the conspiracy charge was allowed to lie on file.

At sentencing, King and Tanner's solicitors claimed the victims – who were as young as 10 – had been the instigators, which the judge accepted.

King's brief told the court his client planned to chemically castrate himself to prevent future offending.

Tanner got three years. King four. For abusing dozens of boys over a years-long period, he'd received three years less than he got in 1966 for abusing two boys on one occasion.

The charity workers were aghast. Prosecutors claimed they had done the deal to spare the boys from having to testify.

But the boys hadn't been consulted and then, to add insult to injury, had been smeared during the sentencing.

By 1993, King had apparently reconsidered his chemical castration and was instead back to his old ways, this time pimping out underage girls.

Two girls made detailed allegations and he was placed under surveillance.

It was during this case that a police officer told a charity worker that a senior officer was "blocking" the investigation, and admitted King was a "registered informant".

Amidst that investigation, King upped sticks and, according to documents from 1993, moved in with a former county councillor in Lincolnshire called Ivor Howes.

But that arrangement was short-lived as Mr Howes died in November 1993.

King settled in Peterborough where, in 1996, he was convicted of indecently assaulting a boy and taking indecent images of a child.

His sentence? Probation.

Within a year, he had abused another boy and taken indecent images of another child. He was jailed for five years, but got it reduced on appeal.

In 1999, he sexually assaulted a 19-year-old man. He got seven months.

In 2008, he was convicted of further offences and given a court order.

Other issues raised at this meeting:

1. [REDACTED] has been blocking investigation – did not pass information to Scotland Yard – does not think King is important enough to resource.

We talked around motives and concluded it could be conspiracy although incompetence and attitude were factors. Bob reckons

Concerns were raised about the police investigation and assumptions made about prolific sex offender King

SHOEBURY SEX RING – SPECIAL REPORT

FROM: [REDACTED]

DATE: 2ND AUGUST, 1993

SUBJECT: KING AND ORGANISED ABUSE

Following a meeting with Bob Fugl, C.S.B. Rayleigh, the purpose of which was to attempt to identify victims from photographs and King's diaries, the following information was passed to me:

1) King has moved to Lincoln to live with a 'County Councillor', Ivor Howes. Bank House - 0406 362313.

2. [REDACTED] – an agency working with 'Rent Boys' is listed in King's diary – a London based organisation [REDACTED]

3. The investigation has been resourced – Bob Fugl to work alone!

There are many other issues within this to discuss. I have a meeting with [REDACTED] this Wednesday to discuss following their Guidelines re: organised abuse.



King's role in organised child abuse had links to London

forward and King was arrested.

But in late 2017, police marked King for no further action without referring the evidence to the CPS.

The force claimed that after reviewing the 1990 case it was satisfied there was no evidence of corruption.

In 2018, King was due to stand trial in Peterborough for repeatedly paying a teenage boy for sex. But the CPS decided in July that it was not in the public interest to proceed as King was "physically at death's door".

In November, he died of AIDS, sparking fears for the health of the many victims he had sexually abused.

Essex Police continues to investigate the Shoebury Sex Ring after a new complainant completed months of interviews in November 2018.

But in light of the Y4's revelations over the last two months, whistleblowers and campaigners are now questioning whether Essex should be handling the case at all.

More next week.

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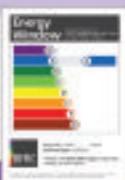
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Man sought after shop raid



CCTV: The man police want to speak to

ESSEX Police is investigating after a man armed with a hammer carried out a robbery at a shop in Westcliff.

The force received reports that the man cycled up to Costcutter on London Road at around 3.40am on Friday.

The man went into the store and tried to access the till by hitting it with a hammer.

He made off with a tray to the till which contained a three figure cash sum.

An Essex Police spokesman said: "It is believed he may have made off on a bicycle down West Road.

"We are issuing a CCTV image of a man we want to speak to in connection with the incident.

"If you recognise the man or have any other information please call us on 101 quoting incident 111 of January 4.

"Alternatively you can contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111."

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MP reaffirms city status bid

New year pledge to help vulnerable

SOUTHEND West MP Sir David Amess has told the *Yellow Advertiser* he is "determined" to see Southend made a city in 2019.

The veteran MP for Southend West made the comment as he gave us his New Year's Resolution for 2019.

Sir David said: "As the New Year begins, we all no doubt reflect on the past year and think optimistically about what we might achieve in the next.

"I am determined to work as hard as possible to improve the lives of vulnerable people in Southend West and ensure that residents are able to make the most of their lives and that in need are not overlooked.

"Finally I am absolutely determined that Southend is declared a city."

Sir David brought the matter of city status up in Prime Minister's Questions last March when he asked Theresa May if a contest could be arranged for Southend to be the first city after Brexit.



HOPES: Sir David Amess MP

Photo by Martin Dalton

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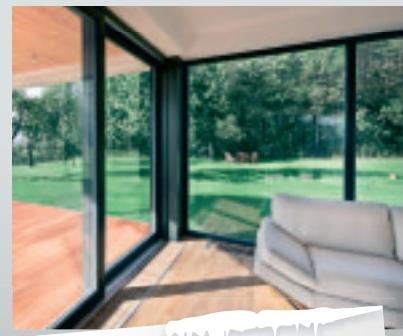
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Business acumen behind so-called logic

I REALISE that I probably seem a bit cynical, but it's the same as when someone declares me to be a pessimist – when in reality, I am an optimist with experience.

By that, I mean I've seen too much corruption in governments – politicians and bureaucrats are the same everywhere.

Therefore, I would expect that behind the push to get the payments for parking, tolls...

through a particular phone app, has more to do with someone getting a "commission" on the money collected that way.

And yes, it not only also happens in Britain, but it is rather rampant. The proof is in the pudding.

However, the media in this country are uncharacteristically reluctant to dig up any dirt, which is probably due to the preposterous libel laws and equally corrupt courts and ultimately no protection offered by a constitution (since the UK doesn't really have one – Duh!).

Have you never wondered why some people get off with just a slap?

For the doubting Thomases, please, consider the "logic", the "business acumen" behind decisions – "donating" the largest car park in town (with the loss of income of £500,000 a year), the unnecessary Queensway "regeneration" project (knocking down 30-year old buildings, but refusing to allow knocking down those more than 100 years old ... and even less functional), a point-less "high speed" train, the cost of which was 11-12 years ago estimated at £2bn, today exceeding £56bn (and still unfinished).

Crossrail, Snowden/Assange persecution, Chequers Brexit ... the list is endless.

When will the people say "ENOUGH!"?

Fred Nicholson
Westcliff

Send in your ideas for bus service

I AM writing to invite your readers to suggest improvements to the Arriva bus network in Southend, Rayleigh, Hadleigh, Shoeburyness and surrounding areas.

We are keen to hear from local residents about their bus network and what they would

like to have in their town and villages. This might be new destinations, tweaks to existing routes or even size of vehicle.

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Gavin Hunter,
*Area Managing Director
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Lions raise cash from collections

THE Lions Club of Rayleigh collected £288.86 at the Rayleigh lights ceremony and Christmas market and the house-to-house collections in Rayleigh and Hockley totalled £839.08 after expenses of £61.12.

We would like to thank everyone who donated. All the proceeds will go to local projects and people in the community. For more information on Rayleigh Lions visit our website or Facebook page.

Graham Roberts
*Permit holder for Lions Club
of Rayleigh*

■ We welcome letters and e-mails on all subjects. Please keep them to fewer than 250 words and include your full name, address and daytime telephone number, wherever possible, for verification. Anonymous letters will not be accepted for publication.

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ON THE CASE - BY EDWARD CASE

The king is in the altogether

ON January 8, Elvis Presley would have been 84 years old. In August it will be 42 years since he died straining on the toilet yet his ability to push out the dollars is as strong, if not stronger than it ever was – even giving the late Michael Jackson a run for his money.

The appeal of "The King" has always been a complete mystery to me. I just don't get it. At all – and I can vividly remember a previous column, some 20 years ago which prompted one *YA* reader to ring in actually in tears over what I had said about their idol.

The fact is his best work was done before 1958 when he was conscripted into the US Army and with the exception of maybe three quality songs, two of which were recorded before his move to RCA in 1955, the bulk of his catalogue was just redneck bubblegum.

How can you go from the rock 'n' roll perfection of Heartbreak Hotel to Wooden Heart in just a few years?

He didn't invent rock 'n' roll, (there's a lot of debate about who deserves that accolade but Ike Turner's Rhythm Kings are strong contenders with Rocket 88, released under sax player Jackie Brenston's name in 1951); he didn't write his own stuff, he wasn't even the first teen idol (Sinatra and Johnny Ray beat him to that by a good few years) and while he was, I

suppose, a reasonable singer with a distinctive vibrato, he was hardly Little Richard when it came to stagecraft.

What he was, though, is white, and at the time that made the music palatable to pointed hood wearing white America.

Once his gyrating hips had hypnotised the nation's teenage girls and outraged their parents, the rest of the world followed because everyone looked to the US for their lead.

The bastardised country music he and his backing duo of Scotty Moore (lauded as a guitar legend but nowhere near the quality of Cliff Gallup from Gene Vincent's Blue Caps) and double bass player Bill Black were peddling came well behind that lock up your daughters notoriety, but it did present opportunities for the discerning music fan to uncover the more obscure but infinitely more talented black rhythm and blues guys.

Elvis' success in the 1950s, is understandable as a disposable pop star, but not the longevity that has gone way beyond his bloated, drug-addled, colon-impacted death in 1977.

A 1969 TV comeback special, which has become the thing of legend to Presley fans, was little more than an audition for cabaret hell, playing for post-menopausal biddies and gangsters' molls in Las Vegas while their hus-

bands lost at the tables, his matinee idol looks buried beneath pill dependency, calore overloads and ever more ridiculous (and larger) flared rhinestone jump-suits.

So what is it that makes millions of fans across the world continue to buy up every cynically repackaged collection of the mostly vacuous saccharine ballads and mock rock of his final 17 years?

When Elvis died, John Lennon was asked for his opinion. His reply was typically succinct: "Elvis died when he joined the army."

■ IN a government now known more for its incompetence than even its downright cruelty towards the sick and disabled it takes something really special to stand out as a complete and utter waste of air.

So stand up and take a bow Transport secretary Chris "failing" Grayling, who is giving almost £14million of our money to a company whose remit is to supply extra ferries for transporting lorries in the increasingly likely event of a no-deal Brexit.

There's only one problem – Seaborne Freight has no ships and no previous experience whatsoever.

He may as well have awarded the contract to Bryan Ferry or the *YA*'s editor with the cheque made out to Mick's Ferries.



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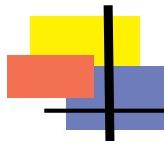


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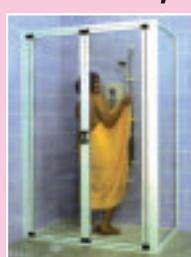
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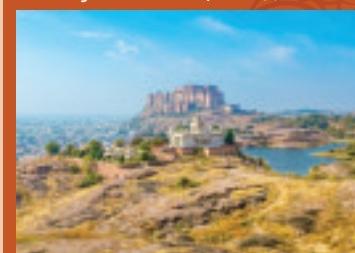
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LIFESTYLE



THIS COULD BE JULIAN'S LAST MINCE

by Lewis Berrill

features@yellowad.co.uk

JULIAN Clary, the self-proclaimed Commodore of camp, is coming to Southend in May.

His latest UK tour, Born To Mince, follows similarly named tours: The Joy of Mincing, Natural Born Mincer, Lord of the Mince, and Mincing Machine.

Julian will play at the Palace Theatre on May 29 and at the Chelmsford Civic theatre on June 7.

In this outrageous new show, that he considered calling Bed Knobs and Knee Pads, Julian will bare his soul as never before in the interests of

light entertainment.

"Are you ready for some filth? I know I am," Julian quipped.

"It's been a while since I sallied forth to pleasure the provinces with my particular brand of saucy innuendo."

Par for the course at a Julian Clary show, he will butcher some hit songs, torment punters foolish enough to sit in the front row, and read you a sneak preview from his next memoir, A Night At the Lubricant.

It has been three years since Julian's last tour, and in the meantime he has been writing children's books.

However, he could not resist the itch to hit the road again. "Children's books are lovely, and I really enjoy making children laugh," he said.

"But a part of me wants to talk filth and I'm not one for depriving myself of that pleasure."

That same itch has been keeping Julian up at night thinking of material. "I wake up in the night. The brain is a funny thing, you know – a random, completely formed 20-minute section just comes to me just before dawn," he mused.

"For example, I've been reading a lot about gay aversion therapy recently, so I had this idea that we could try heterosexual aversion therapy and get some men out in the audience, wire up their genitals, and

show them pictures of Coleen Nolan.

"If there's any twinge of arousal they'll get 40 volts through the testicles."

Julian, whose career has not been without its controversies (his Norman Lamont comment at the 1993 British Comedy Awards saw him effectively banned from TV for two years), admits he revels in outrage and getting people to gasp. "It's one of life's pleasures," he explained.

"It's one of the reasons people come to see me: they desperately want to hear graphic descriptions of homosexual sex acts.

"They want to see if I'll go too far. It livens up their otherwise dreary lives I expect."

After a long career and numerous "mince" tours, Julian who will turn 60 in May, is considering hanging up his boots after Born To Mince.

"I do think it might be the last one. Because at what age does it become inappropriate to talk about things that I talk about?"

"I'm quite drawn to the idea of being a recluse. I'll lock myself away, watching Cash in the Attic.

"People will wander past my house in years to come and say, 'That's where Mr Clary lives. He's let himself go'."

■ Tickets are available online at: <https://southendtheatres.org.uk/Online/>

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ANOTHER FINE MESS

STAN & OLLIE (PG, 98 mins)

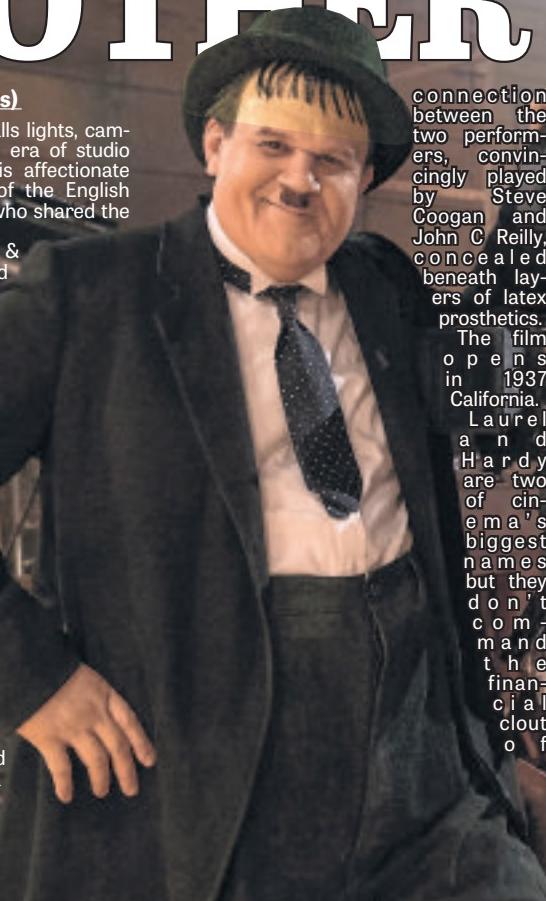
DIRECTOR Jon S Baird calls lights, camera, action on a golden era of studio system Hollywood in his affectionate and heart-warming biopic of the English and American comedy duo, who shared the screen for almost 30 years.

Penned by Jeff Pope, Stan & Ollie is a handsomely crafted valentine to a double-act, who earned legions of adoring fans with pratfalls and slapstick.

The film focuses predominantly on the UK leg of a 1953 theatre tour, which was dominated by Hardy's failing health.

A lean script replays some of the couple's greatest hits including the 1932 short film County Hospital, which finds Oliver in bed with a broken leg and Stan wreaking havoc with a jug of water, a bed pan and a bag of hard-boiled eggs.

These moments of nostalgic recreation are joyful and Baird revels in the



connection between the two performers, convincingly played by Steve Coogan and John C Reilly, concealed beneath layers of latex prosthetics.

The film opens in 1937 California.

Laurel and Hardy are two of cinema's biggest names but they don't command the financial clout of

Chaplin, Keaton or Harold Lloyd because they don't own their pictures.

The duo resolve to demand a better deal from Hal Roach (Danny Huston), who has them under contract, and subsequent wrangling for a bigger slice of the Hollywood pie creates a fissure in the duo's relationship.

Fast-forward to 1953, Stan and Oliver with a stage

tour England show of skits that promises to let them "go out with a bang... in Hull".

Theatre impresario and tour promoter Bernard Delfont (Rufus Jones) is more interested in a "bright new talent" named Norman Wisdom than the duo, who have survived the ravages of time.

"I think it's wonderful you're still going," coos a London jewellery shop assistant.

"Rigour mortis hasn't set in... yet," smiles Stan plaintively.

Wives Ida (Nina Arianda) and Lucille Hardy (Shirley Henderson) offer moral support as the tour continues and Oliver's health suffers.

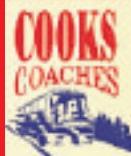
As the title suggests, Stan & Ollie is anchored by Coogan and Reilly, who are fiercely committed, catalysing an old-fashioned bromance that endures after Oliver's death. They are almost upstaged by a tour-de-force performance from Arianda as Stan's wife, a Russian glamour puss of few words – most of them biting – who stands defiantly by her man, especially for a photo opportunity.

Where do you want me? I give them my

good side," she trills excitedly. Baird's film repeatedly tips a bowler hat to its subjects, who got into one fine mess after another so long as it made the world laugh.

DOUBLE ACT: John C. Reilly as Oliver Hardy and Steve Coogan as Stan Laurel
Photo: PA Photo/Entertainment One/Aimee Spinks

Released: January 11
RATING: 7/10



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- 14th.....Victoria & Albert Museum
- 19th.....Imperial War Museum
- 20th.....Royal Courts of Justice
- 22nd.....Chippenden Park Snowdrops
- 23rd.....Canterbury
- 26th.....Bluewater
- 28th Feb - 3rd MarchSpring Knitting & Stitching Show

MARCH

- Ideal Home Show – various dates
- 7th.....Brighton
- 7th.....Worthing
- 9th.....Cruffs
- 12th.....Mystery Tour
- 16th.....Brugge
- 16th.....Portobello Market

19th.....Royal Tunbridge Wells

20th.....Bury St Edmunds

21st.....Cambridge

21st.....Ely

22nd.....Romford

23rd.....Railway Modelling Festival

23rd & 24th ...Thriplow Daffodils

26th.....London Postal Museum

27th.....Aylesbury & Bucks Tour

28th.....Bicester

30th.....Brighton

30th.....Country Living Fair

31st.....Hastings

31st.....Bexhill

APRIL

- 1st.....St Ives & Huntingdon
- 2nd.....Canterbury
- 2nd.....Herne Bay
- 3rd.....Hampton Court Palace
- 3rd, 4th, 6th – Ideal Home Show
- 3rd.....Kew Gardens
- 4th.....Ham House & Richmond

6th.....Crafting at Ally Pally

6th.....Harrods & Knightsbridge

6th.....Natural History Museum

7th.....Clacton

7th.....Mississippi Paddle Boat – Broads Cruise

7th.....Walton on the Naze

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10th.....Boulogne

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PLEASE NOTE: We cannot guarantee that all entries will be included. However, you can add the details of your event to our website at www.yellowad.co.uk

Friday, January 11

- Live music – Preview RNA Club, 73-79 East Street, Prettlewell, Southend, SS2 6LQ. The Blarneys, 8.30pm to midnight. Life membership £1.
- Introduction to silk painting and porcelain painting – Royal Naval Association, 73-79 East Street, Southend, SS2 6LQ. 9.45am to noon. £6. No experience needed.
- Counselling Service – The Olive Tree Centre, 9am-9pm, call anytime and we will get back to you, 01702 524346, enquiries@olivetreecentre.org.uk.
- Overeaters Anonymous Basildon Group – Nevenenden Community Hall, St Peter's Church, Church Lane, Basildon, SS13 1BZ. 8pm, Colin, 07446 080054.
- George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, over-50s, beginners tai chi: 10am to noon, darts: 2-4pm, marquetry: 10am to noon, art: 12.30-2.30pm. Snooker and bingo, £2, 01268 465854.
- Sequence Dancing – George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for the over-50s, 2.15-3.15pm. 01268 465854.
- Book Club – George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for the over-50s, 10-11am. 01268 465854.
- Drama Classes – Helen O'Grady Drama Academy, The Stables, Chalkwell Park Drive, Leigh-on-Sea, designed to increase children's life skills. Call Dina 01245 328680.
- Table Tennis – Laindon Community Centre, Aston Road, off High Street, for over-50s, 11am-1pm, 07931 564105.

Saturday, January 12

- Soup morning – Canvey Methodist Church, Waarden Road, 10.30am to noon.
- Saturday Club – for people with special needs, 9am to noon, games, music, arts, crafts. Ages 14 upwards, Frypta Hall, The Fryth, Basildon, 01268 415409.
- Counselling service – The Olive Tree Centre, 9am-9pm, call anytime and we will get back to you, 01702 524346, enquiries@

olivetreecentre.org.uk.

- Yugioh Club – play and trade yugioh, 120 Southend Road, St Catherine's Church Hall, Wickford, SS11 8EB, mini-tournaments, 1.30-4.20pm. 07965 671289.
- Saturday Morning Club – St Michael's Church Hall, Leigh Road, 10am to noon, free entry, 01702 437863.

Sunday, January 13

- Family service – Christ Church, Wickford, 10.30am.
- Brush Strokes Art Group – Highlands Methodist Church, Leigh-on-Sea, 9.15am-12.15pm, 0177 627043.
- Exercise Class for stroke victims – St Peter's Church Hall, Eastbourne Grove, Southend, 2.30pm, 01702 612509.
- Sunday School – The Ark, Hadleigh Methodist Church, Chapel Lane, SS7 2PQ, 11am to noon, ages three to 10. Call 07585 601815 or 07967 913344.
- Quaker Meeting for silent worship and meditation – Quaker Meeting House, Dundonald Drive, Leigh-on-Sea, 10.30-11.30am, followed by conversation.
- King's Church, Southend – Blenheim School, off Blenheim Chase, Leigh, 10.30am to noon, 01702 523639.
- Greek Community of Southend & District, Church of St Barbara, St Phanourious and St Pauls, Salisbury Avenue, Westcliff, 10am to noon. 01702 466435.
- Sunday Club – TGH Evangelical Church, Kiln Road, Thundersley, (ages three to 12), 10.45-11.45am, details 01702 554904.
- Mojo Friendship Club – Travellers' Joy, Downhall Road, Rayleigh, 07757 658799.
- Hockey & District Horticultural Society trading hut – behind Hawkwell Village Hall, Main Road, Hawkwell, 10am to noon. Membership £3.

Monday, January 14

- Walking football sessions – Civic Hall, Grays, 6-7pm, £2 per session.
- Ron Spack's Jazzyet with John Seeley, saxophone, Oakwood, Rayleigh Road, Eastwood, 8.30pm. 01702 512819.
- Bowls – FS&S Club, Gardiners Close, Basildon. All-weather green, free coaching, details 01268 416467.
- Green bowls – Mopsies Park, Vange, details 01268 558756.
- Coffee Morning and sale of goods – Christ Church, Wickford, 9am to noon.
- Club 50+ – 1B Queen's Road, Southend, 9.30am-3.30pm, daily, £2 day pass, details 01702 346863.
- Coffee Morning – for parents in Craylands and Felmores area. Briscoe Community Centre, 9-11am, free workshop, coffee and creche. Call 07880 035968, or just turn up.
- Dance Class – ballroom, Latin American, Ashingdon and East Hawkwell Memorial Hall. Info: 01702 546219/542349.
- Leigh Scrabble Club – 7-10pm, Wesley Hall, Leigh Broadway, Leigh-on-Sea. Turn up or call 01268 727915.
- Senior Citizens Club – Richmonde Hall, Benfleet, 1.30-3.30pm.
- Counselling Service – Olive Tree Centre, 9am-9pm, call anytime and we will get back to you, 01702 524346, enquiries@olivetreecentre.org.uk.
- Over-50s Keep-fit Classes – Fryerns Community Centre, Pat 01268 770294.
- Duplicate Bridge – Balmoral Bridge Club, Highlands Methodist Church, Olive Avenue, Leigh (opp Thames Drive), 1.15pm-4.30pm. 01702 343611 or 01702 520993.
- Duplicate Bridge – Thorpe Bay Bridge Club, 62 Southchurch Blvd, Southend, all standards, 2-4.45pm (no partner needed), 7.30-10.30pm, call Danny 07843 771774.
- Weekly Craft Workshop – St Peter's Church Hall, Thundersley, 6-8pm, Michelle 07730 582784.
- Basildon Players Amateur Dramatic Group – 8-10pm, Bowers and Pitsea Football Club, Crown Avenue, Pitsea, SS13 2BE. 07913 426371, joining@basildonplayers.co.uk.
- Zumba – Pitsea Day Centre Over-50s, Northlands Pavement, Pitsea, 9.15-10am. 01268 465432.
- Short Mat Bowls Club – Westwood School, Hadleigh, welcomes new members Monday and Wednesday evenings, Kevin 01268 792433.
- Short Mat Bowls, Thundersley, beginners welcome, details 01268 779174.
- Indoor Short Mat Bowls – Prettlewell Bowls Club, Priory Park, Southend, Ray 01268 777666.
- Indoor Bowls – George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for over-50s, Monday 2-4pm, 01268 465854.
- Whist – George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for over-50s, 10am to noon, details 01268 465854.
- Senior Citizens Club – Ghyllgrove Centre, Butneys, 1.30-3.30pm, 01268 293995.
- Evening of clairvoyance – 57 Point Road, Canvey, SS8 7TT, 7pm, £3 all profits to charity. Tel: 07922 001433 or 01268 691922.
- Fitness Walking – from Leigh Tennis Club, Highlands Boulevard, Leigh-on-Sea, 7.15-8.15pm, 01702 715509.
- Scrabble Club – Wesley Church Hall, Elm Road, Leigh Broadway, no partner needed.

Tony Stockwell psychic medium



www.tonystockwell.com

The popular star of TV's Sixth Sense, Street Psychic, and Psychic Academy, Tony Stockwell demonstrates his belief that those who have passed can communicate with their loved ones with detailed messages frequently including names, dates and locations and all delivered with emotion, sensitivity and empathy. The evening may include psychometry, photograph readings and psychic prediction.

Tuesday 15th January 2019 The Palace Theatre, Southend

www.southendtheatres.org Box Office 01702 351135

- Coffee Morning – for parents in Craylands and Felmores area. Briscoe Community Centre, 9-11am, free workshop, coffee and creche. Call 07880 035968, or just turn up.
- Dance Class – ballroom, Latin American, Ashingdon and East Hawkwell Memorial Hall. Info: 01702 546219/542349.
- IT help sessions – Billericay Library, 10.30am to noon. Details 01277 624624.

Tuesday, January 15

- Couples, Table tennis, snooker, 8-10pm, St Andrew's Church Hall, Ashingdon. Drop in or call 01702 548597.
- Painting class – The Studio, Glebelands Nursery, Hawkwell, Hockley, SS5 4JY. 10.30am-12.30pm. Details 01702 30717.
- Folk Music – The Hoy at Anchor Folk Club, Royal British Legion, 7/9 Northview Drive, Westcliff, 8pm. 01702 715111.
- Social Dance – 145pm, St Cedds Church, Bridgewater Drive, Westcliff. Ballroom, sequence, Latin, 01702 618771.
- Evening of clairvoyance – St Cecilia's Christian Spiritualist Church, 9 Lord Roberts Avenue, Leigh-on-Sea, 7.15pm, £2.50.
- Craft Group – Oasis Coffee House, 189 Leigh Road, Leigh, 2.30-4pm. 01702 471873.
- Singles Social Group – The Mews, Nelson Mews off Clarence Road car park, Southend, age 50-plus, 8pm. 07970 432994.
- Singles Friendship Club for 50-plus – South Benfleet Social Club, 8.15pm, details Maureen 01268 692998.
- Vango Tots – Vango Community Centre, Vange Hill Drive, Vange, 9.30-11.30am, admission £1, 01268 498642.
- Table Top Sale – Outpatients Foyer, Southend Hospital, 9.30am-3pm. Breathe Easy Southend, supporting people with lung problems. 01702 258661.
- Little Lunchers Activity Club – St Michael's Church, Rayleigh, 11.45am-1.15pm.
- Pathfinders Blind and Partially Sighted Group – Fryerns Baptist Church, Whitmore Way, Basildon, SS14 2TJ, 9.30am-2pm.
- Scrabble Club – Hockley Social Centre (rear of library), 6.30-10.30pm, first two visits free, 01702 205910.
- Social Dance Class – ballroom, Latin American and sequence, 8.30-10.30pm, Ashingdon and East Hawkwell Memorial Hall. 01702 546219/542349.
- Yoga Class – Thorpedene Community Centre, Delaware Road, Shoeburyness, 7-8.30pm, £6, bring a blanket and yoga mat, ages 16-plus. 07961 314983.
- New and nearly new stall – outside St Martin's Church, Town Centre, Basildon, (if wet in church foyer), 10am to noon.
- Table Tennis – 7.30-10.30pm, The Megacentre, 7 Brook Road, Rayleigh, £3.60 per session.

- Sunday Lunch Buffet £8.95
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OLD, dark January mornings can leave us feeling sluggish and lacking in the get-up-and-go we need to tackle the day. There are many cost-effective ways to raise spirits as 2019 gets under way, says Liz Earle, founder of Liz Earle Wellbeing (lizearlewellbeing.com). Looking after our wellbeing shouldn't mean spending lots of money on latest fads. Here's her top five budget-busting tips to keep energy levels up until spring rolls in...

1. Add a dose of homemade probiotics to your diet

Shop-bought probiotics can be expensive, and full of added sugar. Try making your own. Live yogurt is easy to make overnight with a little milk, and I always have a kombucha ferment on the go. I make my own kefir using fresh live kefir grains or powders and organic whole milk a couple of times a week. Sauerkraut couldn't be easier or cheaper, either. Pack chopped cabbage in salty water for two to three weeks to ferment it, before adding a spoonful to simple lunch and supper dishes.

2. Introduce stillness into your day

There are a variety of ways do this, such as meditation or relaxing walks. I make an effort to build quiet "downtime" into each day – even if it's just 10 minutes of sitting in the garden with a book.

3. Stretch daily

One way to knock years off how you look and feel is to improve posture. By standing truly upright, feet flat on the ground, head looking straight ahead, shoulders back and lowered, you immediately feel more alive. One of my favourite tips for releasing tension and lowering shoulders is to hold your arms behind your back and grasp the opposite elbow.

4. Give your gut time to rest

Whenever possible, try to rest your gut overnight, allowing a clear 12-hour window when nothing is eaten. I try to have a juice cleanse at least twice a year too. I follow the 70-30 rule, making 70% of my juice from veggies, as pure fruit juices are very high in sugars.

5. Spend more time outside

Natural daylight and fresh air increase our sense of wellbeing and happiness, so don't let the cold weather stop you from getting outside at this time of year.

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Arundel Road, BENFLEET £475,000 Offers Invited

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Spacious Four Bedroom Detached Family Home In Excellent Condition Throughout | Lounge/Diner 30'11 x 16'3 | Kitchen 13' x 9' | Study 8'10 x 7'1 | Ground Floor W.C | Bedroom One 13' x 11'11 | Bedroom Two 12'8 x 9'1 | Bedroom Three 10' x 9'1 | Bedroom Four 8'9 x 8'3 | Modern Three Piece Bathroom Suite | Garage | Off Street Parking | Close To Local Shops, Amenities & Woodside Park | Stunning Accommodation | King John & Appleton School Catchment | No Onward Chain | Viewings Advised | EPC- D | Call 01702 555888 or live chat at amosestates.com

Church Road, RAYLEIGH £320,000

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Oak Walk, HOCKLEY £279,995

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Two Bedroom Semi Detached Bungalow | Perfect Opportunity For DIY Enthusiasts | Located Within A Popular Turning A Walk Away From Hockley Station And The Village Shops | Entrance Hall | Kitchen 9' X 7' | Lounge 17' X 11'11 | Wet Room 7' X 4' | Bedroom One 11' X 9'10 | Bedroom Two 10' X 7'11 | Large Rear Garden | Front Garden | Popular Location | Great Opportunity | No Onward Chain | Call Hockley Office 01702 207720 or live chat at amosestates.com

THUNDERSLEY | £485,000

FOR
SALE

Versatile Three Bedroom Detached Family Home Situated in this Quiet Cul De Sac Location \ Reception Hall 17'6 x 8'7 \ Lounge 19' x 13'3 \ Dining Room 10' x 9'11 \ Kitchen/Breakfast Room 12'9 x 12'4 \ Utility Room 19'2 x 5'8 \ Lobby Area 10'5 Max x 7'3 \ Sun Room 10'2 x 7'5 \ Ground Floor W.C \ Bedroom One 18'4 x 11'5 Plus Wardrobe Depth \ Bedroom Two 10'9 x 9'11 \ Bedroom Three 10'1 x 10' \ Four Piece Bathroom Suite \ Secluded Rear Garden Measuring Approximately 70ft In Width x 48ft In Depth \ Garage 19'10 Max x 16' \ Workshop 17'7 x 8'3 \ Off Street Parking \ Short Stroll From Thundersley Village, Thundersley Common & Local Amenities \ Easy Access Of A127/A13 Trunk Roads \ Viewings Advised \ Call 01702 555888 or live chat at amosestates.com

HADLEIGH | Guide £325,000 - £335,000

FOR
SALE

Well Presented Semi Detached Bungalow In This Extremely Sought After Location Off Poors Lane \ Lounge 17'4 x 12' \ Kitchen/Breakfast Room 15'5 x 7'2 \ Bedroom One 12'2 x 9'11 \ Sitting Room/Bedroom Two 10'1 x 9'1 \ Conservatory 9'2 x 9'1 \ Wet Room \ Secluded West Backing Rear Garden Measuring Approximately 42ft \ Off Street Parking \ Excellent Condition Throughout \ Upvc Double Glazing \ Gas Central Heating \ Close To Local Woodland, Hadleigh Town Centre And Hadleigh Country Park \ Viewing Advised \ EPC - D \ Call 01702 555888 or live chat at amosestates.com

CANVEY ISLAND | £320,000

FOR
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Deceptively Spacious Three Bedroom Detached Family Home \ Lounge 20'4 x 12'6 \ Study/Sitting Room 9' x 7'8 \ Kitchen/Diner 19'1 x 9' \ Ground Floor W.C \ Bedroom One 10'6 x 9'1 \ Bedroom Two 9'3 x 9'1 \ Bedroom Three 9'9 x 7'8 \ Three Piece Bathroom Suite \ Good Size 35ft Rear Garden \ Garage 17'7 x 7'7 \ Off Street Parking \ Easy Access Of Benfleet Mainline Station & Major Trunk Roads \ Short Walk From Canvey Two Centre, Local Amenities & Bus Routes \ Viewings Advised \ EPC - E \ Call 01702 555888 or live chat at amosestates.com

HOCKLEY | £435,000

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Spacious And Well Decorated Detached Bungalow \ Wide Road Frontage \ Entrance Hall \ Lounge 13'11 X 13' \ Modern Kitchen 13'11 X 7' \ Dining Room 10'10 X 7' \ Bedroom One 12' X 11' \ Bedroom Two 10' X 10' \ Wet Room 8' X 6' \ Rear Garden \ Off Street Parking \ Detached Pitched Roof Garage \ No Onward Chain \ Close to Village Shops \ Call Hockley Office 01702 207720 or live chat at amosestates.com

HOCKLEY | £320,000



Two Double Bedroom Semi-Detached Bungalow \ Good Size Lounge 16' x 11'11 \ Modern Kitchen 11' x 9' \ Conservatory 10' x 8' \ Bedroom One 12' x 11' \ Bedroom Two 11' x 8'11 \ Three Piece Bathroom Suite 6'9 x 6'2 \ Front Garden \ Rear Garden \ Detached Garage \ Off Street Parking \ Feature Fireplace \ Call Hockley Office 01702 207720 or live chat at amosestates.com

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TO
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Southend £232,000

TRULY EXCEPTIONAL... High spec two double bedroom third floor apartment with luxury en suite shower room to master bedroom, superb bathroom, well fitted and equipped kitchen, secure underground parking, gas central heating. Property faces south and is therefore bright and sunny. EPC=B. Ref: ebe3879



Westcliff £305,000

FULLY REFURBISHED 3 bedroom family house with ground floor shower room and first floor bathroom, newly fitted kitchen/diner, utility room, new decor and floor coverings, double glazing, gas central heating. Close to local shops and facilities. No onward chain. EPC=E. Ref: ebe3861



Southend £290,000

TRULY EXCEPTIONAL... Deceptively spacious three bedroom, two bathroom beautifully refurbished semi det house in central location close to the town centre and stations etc. Virtually everything renewed including fitted kitchen, fully tiled first floor bathroom, gas central heating, double glazing. Tastefully decorated. Must be viewed. EPC=tba. Ref: ebe3875



Westcliff £205,000

NEW 99 YEAR LEASE AND OFF STREET PARKING.... With this deceptively spacious two double bedroom flat in popular location close to shops and amenities. Front and rear gardens, gas central heating, good decor, no onward chain. Ideal first purchase or buy to let investment. EPC=C. Ref: ebe3880



Southend £325,000

FAVoured SOUTHCHURCH VILLAGE AREA... Backing west, close to C2C station, Southchurch Road shopping facilities, and good schools, three bedroom, two reception room family house with off street parking. Rear sun-trap balcony, gas central heating, "lean to" utility, double glazing. Considerable potential. EPC= tba. Ref: ebe3876



Southend £375,000

SOUTHCHURCH PARK AREA... South of C2C line, backing west via landscaped garden, greatly improved and immaculate 3 bedroom semi detached house that must be viewed to be appreciated. Off street parking. Open plan ground floor with stunning fitted kitchen and 28' lounge/diner. Excellent bathroom with shower cubicle, Double glazing, gas central heating. Superb family home in favoured location close to station and seafront. EPC=E. Ref: ebe3868



Southend £295,000

SPACIOUS SEMI IN SOUTH AVENUE... With sunny south facing garden, having off street parking, well equipped 3 bedroom, house with g/floor shower room/wc and f/floor bathroom. Fitted kitchen, gas central heating, double glazing. Close to local shops, schools and amenities. EPC= tba. Ref: ebe3877



SOUTHEND £185,000

STUNNING SECOND FLOOR APARTMENT.... With exceptional specification, a luxury one bed property in Southpoint development close to local shops and with easy access to Southend centre. Lift to all floors. Secure underground parking. Superb fitted kitchen with integrated appliances. Stylish bathroom. Impressive throughout and in immaculate order. Viewing strongly recommended. EPC=B. Ref: ebe3854

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Basildon £250,000

Being offered Chain Free and Just a short distance away from Basildon town centre and mainline station is this three bedroom staggered terrace house. The property is ideal for any first time buyer or family looking for the next step up on the property ladder and offers great value for money. A true feeling of space and light throughout are well complimented with modern finish whilst combining a warm and homely feel. Being refurbished with a lovely bathroom suite and re-fitted kitchen, it leaves the new owners nothing to do but to move in and enjoy life! The property is also close to local amenities, open playing fields and popular schools. Call now to arrange an internal viewing.

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK



Hullbridge Price £340,000

Occupying a most sought after village location is this two bedroom detached bungalow, situated close to the River Crouch and Kendal's nature reserve with its great walks just a short stroll away. Offering plenty of potential and benefitting from having 19' kitchen/diner, Natural light flooded lounge, conservatory with French doors leading to well maintained wrap around rear garden, detached garage and independent driveway. With easy access to all local amenities, train stations just a short drive away, this could be the perfect purchase for you. Call now to arrange an internal viewing.



Hockley £150,000

This one bedroom park home is situated on the established Hockley park home development, providing park home living with peace and tranquility in a secure and pleasant surrounding. Situated in a great location with views across open farmland and a conservation area towards the River Crouch, ideal for nature lovers or dog lovers having plenty of beautiful walks. The park is available for the semi-retired and retired over 45's. The property has its own off street parking and wrap around garden - call now to arrange an internal viewing.



New Build Apartments

Prices From £280,000 The Residences is a beautiful and stylish brand new development of 6 two-bedroom contemporary apartments built to a very high specification, conveniently located in Thundersley, Essex close to Rayleigh and Benfleet stations with easy access to the A127 and A13 for London and the M25. Almost opposite is the popular and well-known Virgin Active gym. The apartments are fitted with fully fitted Moylans kitchens featuring Siemens appliances and quartz worktops, fully tiled shower rooms, enjoy the sun-trap of the communal roof garden with friends and other resident and beautiful New England Wooden Shutters.



Rayleigh £192,500

This competitively priced, charming first floor one double bedroom flat is situated in a prime location, just a short walk away from Rayleigh's mainline station and vibrant town centre, with all the excellent amenities it affords. Boasting a modern, integrated kitchen and a bright and airy lounge/diner this perfect home would be the ideal property for commuters, first time buyers and investor alike and also offers the additional convenience of allocated off street parking too. Book your viewing today with our friendly team.

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Basildon £250,000

Being offered Chain Free and Just a short distance away from Basildon town centre and mainline station is this three bedroom staggered terrace house. The property is ideal for any first time buyer or family looking for the next step up on the property ladder and offers great value for money. A true feeling of space and light throughout are well complimented with modern finish whilst combining a warm and homely feel. Being refurbished with a lovely bathroom suite and re-fitted kitchen, it leaves the new owners nothing to do but to move in and enjoy life! The property is also close to local amenities, open playing fields and popular schools. Call now to arrange an internal viewing.

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK



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Hockley £150,000

This one bedroom park home is situated on the established Hockley park home development, providing park home living with peace and tranquility in a secure and pleasant surrounding. Situated in a great location with views across open farmland and a conservation area towards the River Crouch, ideal for nature lovers or dog lovers having plenty of beautiful walks. The park is available for the semi-retired and retired over 45's. The property has its own off street parking and wrap around garden - call now to arrange an internal viewing.



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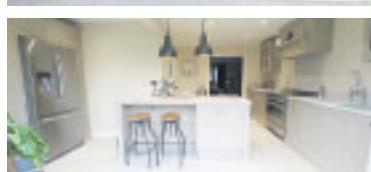


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Here's what learners need to master

By Chris Russon

USE of a mobile phone, speeding and the dangers of tailgating have topped the list of what young motorists need to know when learning to drive.

Research by Young Driver, an organisation specialising in junior driver training, has revealed what experienced motorists think learners need to master. And almost half of those who took part in a survey said they believed motorway lessons should be compulsory.

Such lessons were introduced last year but only on a voluntary basis.

The results of the study, which polled 1,000 experienced UK drivers, showed the top 10 areas where learner drivers could be taught more successfully.

They were:

- 1) Not to use a mobile phone when driving – 56 per cent.
- 2) Not to drive too fast – 49 per cent.
- 3) The dangers of tailgating – 47 per cent.
- 4) Driving etiquette, such as thanking other drivers or allowing people to filter in – 45 per cent.
- 5) How to drive on motorways – 43 per cent.
- 6) How to drive at night – 40 per cent.



SURVEY: Experienced drivers say using a mobile phone, speeding and tailgating are areas that should be taught more successfully to learners

7) Not to be a middle-lane hog – 40 per cent.

8) How to park better – 40 per cent

9) Always use an indicator – 38 per cent.

10) Opening a car door in a parking space without banging it into the adjacent vehicle – 35 per cent.

Laura White, from Young Driver, said: "It is perhaps strange that motorway or night time driving – skills which are needed by nearly all UK drivers – are not an essential part of the learning process. It seems motorists think there are things about being a good driver which learners aren't being taught in a successful way."

"However, much of it is down to having a greater awareness of other road users and being courteous, a lot of which is gained through experience and not slipping into bad habits."

Young Driver has given 600,000 lessons to 10 to 17-year-olds across the UK. The lessons take place on specially created road systems at private venues, with traffic lights, junctions and roundabouts to negotiate and tuition is given by approved instructors in dual controlled Vauxhall Corsas. Advanced Skills Days, offering motorway training, are available for under-17s.

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READY to set those New Year resolutions? Start at home with these five suggestions...

1. 'One in, one out' rule

Rather than buying new things, take time to assess what's already in your wardrobe/stuffed in drawers and cabinets/on your shelves. Could adopting a one in, one out rule encourage you to think about new purchases a little more, and make for a calmer, more orderly space?

2. Prioritise good ventilation

Mould, damp and "toxic home syndrome" are health concerns that can be serious, ranging from niggling coughs and headaches, to asthma and lung diseases. It's easy to go weeks without opening windows, especially in colder months. Give your home and health a boost with a good, regular airing.

3. Resurrect those bath-time rituals

For many, it's an easy way to weave some meaningful self-care and calm into our busy lives and reconnect with a basic but important human need; That our homes are our safe havens – so add weekly bath to your home life to-do list.

4. Create a life admin regime

A home office might be a stretch for many, but a life admin area could be an addition to our homes. All it requires is storage (a drawer, box, folder – whatever fits your needs) and a place for it – this is where you'll file letters/statements/receipts, etc. Keep a log of that week's tasks on a to-do list or planner, and commit to time once a week when you tick off the week's tasks.

5. Slash packaging waste

Recycling, reusing and cutting waste can start at home. It might be buying fruit and veg loose in paper bags to skip plastic; lunch boxes for work; batch-cooking dinners so you can plot shopping (meaning less packaging and food waste). Some days, convenience takes priority and we can't all afford the organic market. That's OK – just do what you can, when you can – it all adds up.

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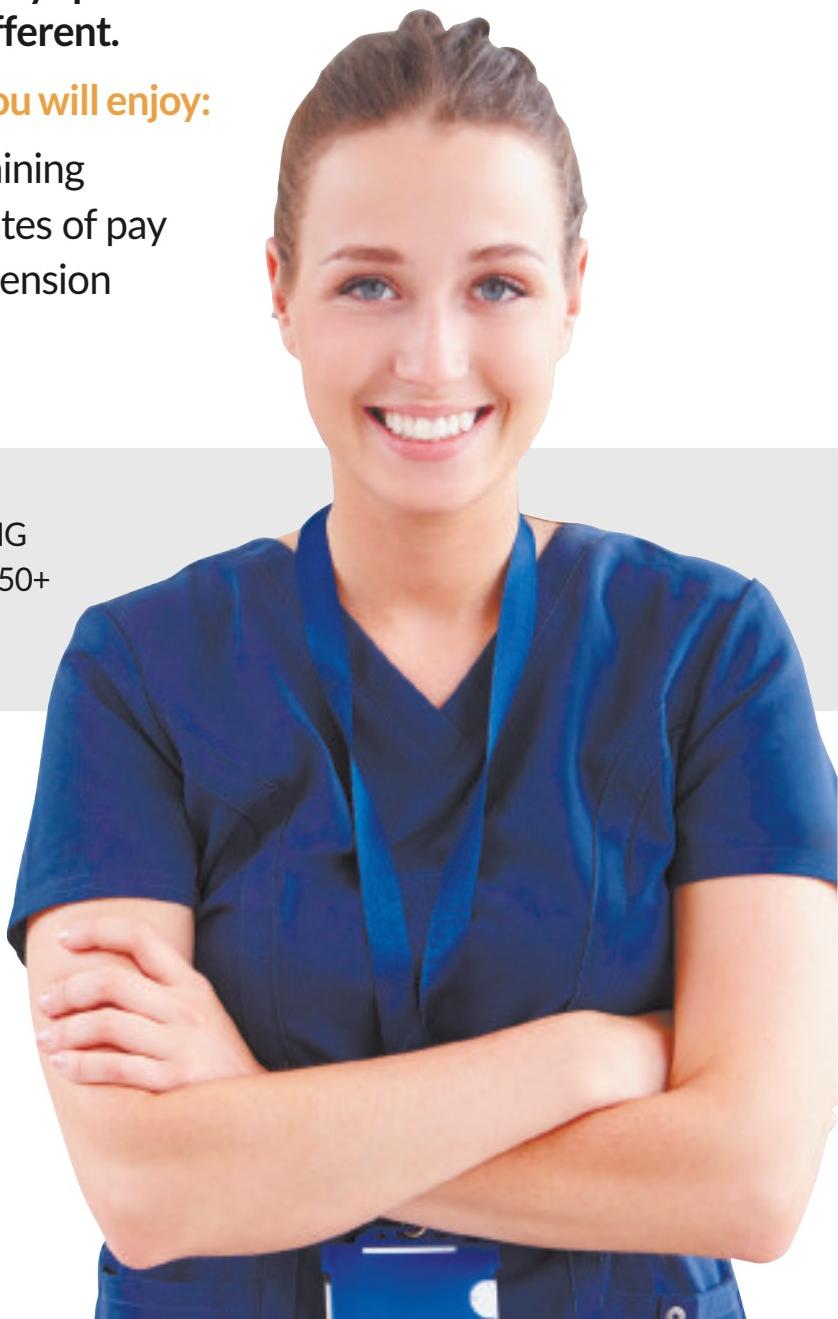
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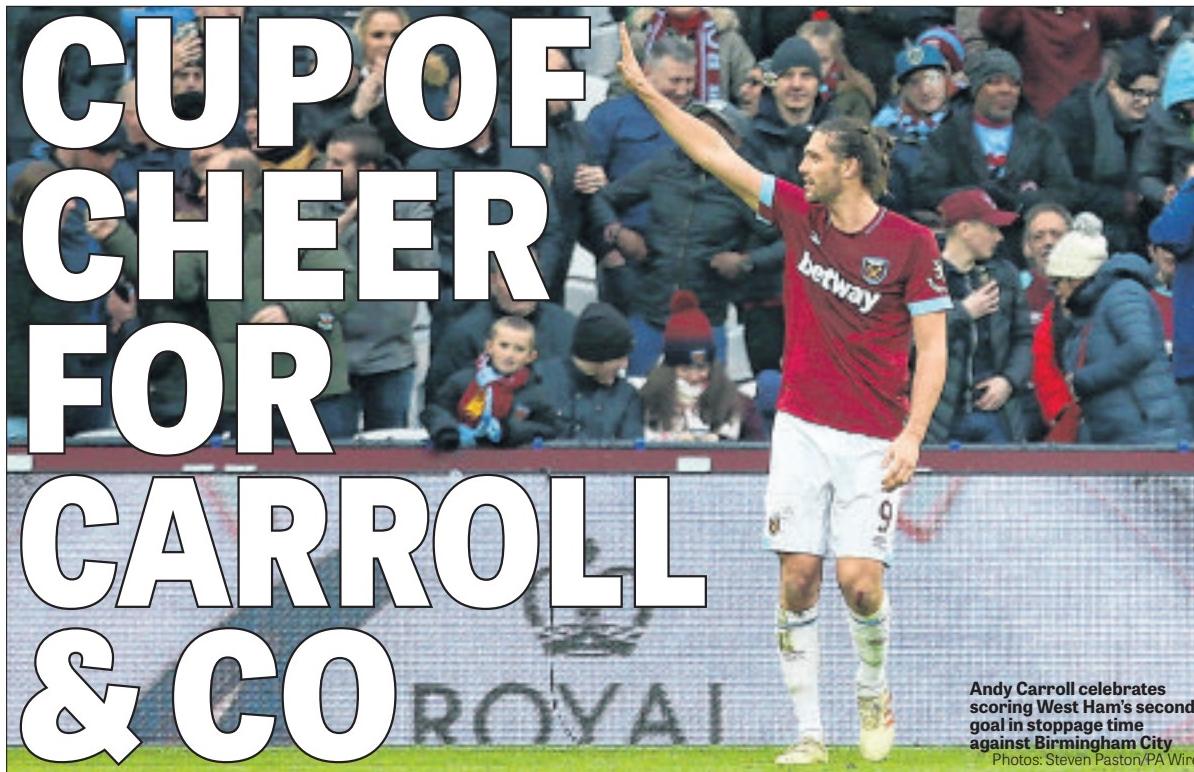
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Emirates FA Cup third round

West Ham United 2

Arnautovic 2',
Carroll 90+1'

Birmingham City 0

GOALS from Marko Arnautovic and Andy Carroll ensured West Ham United's Emirates FA Cup progress, but only after battling Birmingham City had made them fight all the way in a well-contested tie.

Hammers boss, Manuel Pellegrini, handed a debut to new signing Samir Nasri while Xande Silva was also included in a strong starting line-up.

And the Chilean was quick to point out the importance of the competition to the east Londoners: "To win a title with West Ham is

one of the targets. The FA Cup is a very important trophy and for any manager, it's important to try to win."

"It's another opportunity to qualify for Europe, so we will fight until the end."

Silva tested Blues stopper, Lee Camp, with an angled effort in the opening seconds, and from the resulting corner, the Hammers grabbed an early advantage.

Arnautovic was on hand to pick up the pieces after Camp had sprung across his goal to keep out Angelo Ogbonna's powerful header.

Hammers were dealt a blow when goalscorer Arnautovic, limped angrily out of the action – replaced by Carroll. Sensing an early opportunity to kill the tie, West Ham pressed. Camp was relieved to see Grady Diangana's deflected effort drift the wrong side of an upright. Meanwhile, Connor Mahoney nodded wide as

City offered a threat of their own. Camp produced another good stop to deny Issa Diop's goal-bound header. However, Birmingham had grown into the contest. Lukas Jutkiewicz saw a looping header of his own knocked off the line by Carroll as the home side began to look a little anxious and nervy.

Diangana burst into the box before driving low into the side netting as the home side looked to reassert their early authority. But the Blues were now asking a few questions of their own – Maikel Kieftenbeld a whisker away from sending the visitors in level at the break.

Jutkiewicz had Adrian scampering across his goal after seizing upon some hesitant Hammers defending as the industrious Blues returned to the fray brightly.

Meanwhile, substitute Carroll saw his header blocked then Diangana crucially lost his bearings as the Hammers responded meekly.

It was far from convincing stuff from the Hammers.

Michail Antonio's speculative strike was agonisingly close following a sweeping foray forward, while Silva's right-footed attempt was too high and Carroll clipped the woodwork as West Ham tried to break down the resolute, well organised West Midlanders, who had given a decent account of themselves.

Carroll passed up a glorious late opportunity to finish the contest – running out of both pace and pitch after rounding Camp. But when provided with another chance in the first minute of stoppage-time, the Geordie frontman headed Antonio's pinpoint centre firmly home, confirming the hosts progression into round four.

After the game, Pellegrini remained very much focused on the positives.

"One of those (positives) is the

Andy Carroll celebrates scoring West Ham's second goal in stoppage time against Birmingham City

Photos: Steven Paston/PA Wire

NEW SIGNING: Samir Nasri



THE BIG MATCH

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Premier League

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Non-league football

Daggers fight back in eight-goal thriller

DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE were involved in an incredible National League thriller with Boreham Wood at Victoria Road, recovering a three-goal deficit before settling for a share of the spoils from a breathless 4-4 encounter.

Goals from Idris Kanu, Ricky Shakes and Justin Shaibu handed the visitors a 3-0 lead shortly after the half-hour mark. But during an extraordinary five-minute spell before the break, the Daggers produced a stirring comeback to level the score through Connor Wilkinson, Liam Gordon and Angelo Balanta.

The match swung Dagenham's way when Gordon scored his second of the afternoon with little over a quarter of an hour remaining. But a Bradley Ash strike three minutes from time for Boreham Wood ensured a point apiece and denying the hosts their first win in four matches.

Braintree Town picked up a creditable point from a goalless encounter with Halifax Town at the Shay Stadium. The Iron remain bottom of the table, nine points from safety.

It was a hugely disappointing afternoon for league leaders, Leyton Orient, who went down 3-0 to promotion rivals, Salford City. Carl Piergianni and Rory Gaffney scored in the opening eight minutes as Salford seized control at Brisbanes Road. The O's miserable day was compounded when Piergianni added the visitors' third in the final stages.

There was a return to National League South winning ways for Billericay Town, who triumphed by three goals to two at Weston-Super-Mare. Adam Coombes bagged a brace for the Blues, while Kieran Cadogan was also on target.

East Thurrock United did their survival chances the power of good after goals from Ricky Hayles and Sam Ashford ensured the Rocks a 2-0 victory over Gloucester City at Rookery Hill. And it was the same outcome at the Melbourne Stadium where Rhys Murphy's first-half double was sufficient to sink Hampton & Richmond Borough.

Elsewhere, Concord Rangers went down by the odd goal in three at Hungerford Town – Sam Blackman with the Beach Boys' consolation.

A late George Saunders strike earned AFC Hornchurch a point against Dorking Wanderers after Kieran Lavery had handed the visitors the lead midway through the second half.

Bostik North leaders, Bowers & Pitsea, saw their title charge held up after a second-half goal from Charlie Kendall handed promotion rivals, Heybridge Swifts, all three points at the Aspen Waite Arena.

Maldon & Tiptree remain in contention after a 4-2 victory over Great Wakering Rovers at Burroughs Park. Two each from Sammie McLeod and De-Carrey Sheriff (one pen) ensured the Jammers victory. Jake Gordon and Shomari Barnwell responded in a match which saw all six goals scored in the first half.

Thomas Richardson and Andrew Freeman found the net as Aveley eased to a 2-0 win at AFC Sudbury, while Ross Elsom (2), Kemo Darboe, Darelle Russell and Abs Seymour helped Barking to a 5-1 thrashing of Basildon United. Jeffrey Cobblah responded on a difficult afternoon for the Bees.

Thomas Barton and Lewis Smith both scored twice as Tilbury saw off Dereham Town 4-2 at Chadfields. Meanwhile, Grays Athletic recorded a 3-2 win over Bury Town – Kieran Bishop (2) and Aron Gordon on the scoresheet.

Canvey Island edged out Mildenhall Town 2-1 at Park Lane – Adam Vyse scoring both Gulls goals – the second from the spot. Witham Town triumphed by the same margin, beating Brentwood Town thanks to strikes from Toby Aromolaran and Luke Mallett (pen) after Ernest Okoh had given Brentwood the lead.

Romford endured a difficult afternoon, crashing to a 4-0 defeat at Soham Town Rangers.

Hullbridge Sports were the big winners of the day in the Essex Senior League, thrashing Sawbridgeworth 6-1 at Lower Road. Walthamstow were 3-1 winners over Saffron Walden Town.

Takeley won by a single goal at Redbridge and it was a similar outcome at Southchurch Park, where Southend Manor slipped to defeat at the hands of St Margaret'sbury.

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